



ESSA Advisory Committee
October 2, 2019; Townsend Bldg., Dover, DE
Meeting Minutes

Committee Members Present: Candice Fifer, Kendall Massett, Jon Sheehan, Deborah Stevens, Kimberly Williams, Caesar Rodney High School student

Committee Members Absent: Sybil Baker, Sarah Bucic, Matthew Burrows, Heather Collins, Tammy Croce, Julie Johnson, Anastasia Kynard, Shawn Larrimore, John Marinucci, Mark McKenzie, Laura Sturgeon, Ashlee Upp, Patrik Williams

Others Present: Jenna Ahner, Christine Alois, Susan Bunting, Shannon Holston, Chantel Janiszewski, Phil Keefer, Lindsay Lewis, Chuck Longfellow, Jon Neubauer, Maria Paxson, Jenn Smith, Patricia Zielen

OPENING

- Deputy Secretary Christine Alois thanked everyone in attendance and called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.
- Alois introduced a new student member, a senior from Caesar Rodney High School, who will serve on the committee this school year.
- Committee members and others in attendance introduced themselves and their affiliations.
- Alois noted as we roll out implementation of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), it allows the opportunity to work together locally for decision making of those most directly involved with students' educational success. The committee's role is to support stakeholder outreach. Staying informed and taking the information out to others to bring back feedback is integral to the workings of the committee. The focus is on making ESSA as clear as possible to all stakeholders in the community.
- Alois noted on the department's website under ESSA, is an email link designed to provide an open line of communication to send ideas, ask questions, and make comments. Sending to continuous.improvement@doe.k12.de.us, comments go directly to Alois and other staff in the department who will provide a timely response.

APPROVAL of JUNE 2019 MEETING MINUTES

The committee unanimously approved the minutes from the June 10, 2019, meeting (motioned by Kendall Massett, seconded by Deborah Stevens).

REPORT CARD ENHANCEMENTS AND FEEDBACK

Alois noted that the Delaware Report Card website serves as a primary conduit to get information out to families about education in Delaware. This is a continually evolving process, taking feedback from the public to make enhancements and other changes. Important to be cognizant that families are the primary audience and to provide information that they want to see, and present in a clear and accurate format.

At this time, Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) staff, Lindsay Lewis, Operations Support Team, gave a brief overview of updates to Delaware Report Card to include:

- Language translation

- Snapshot page pdf/print option
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) data
- Federal reporting requirements related to teacher certification
- Accountability page overview
- Continued work on school finder

The Open Data Portal for Delaware officially launched and includes in-depth reporting on a multitude of data points. Information found on department's website can be found on the portal. All state agencies are required to utilize for reporting.

Additional comments and/or questions are welcomed and can be sent via contact link on the DDOE report card at <https://reportcard.doe.k12.de.us/> or to Lindsay Lewis at lindsay.lewis@doe.k12.de.us.

GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS

Chantel Janiszewski, DDOE Office of Performance Management, shared the following resources created to provide additional supports to districts/charters related to the accountability system (*Ctrl + Click to follow each link*).

Dual Enrollment (as it relates to the DSSF)

On Track Attendance (DSSF measure)

Chronic Absenteeism (support for the On Track Attendance measure)

Future guidance documents in development include Academic Progress (DSSF growth measure) and how school ratings are determined.

ENGLISH LEARNERS ATTAINMENT TARGETS

Maria Hernandez (Paxson), DDOE English Learner (EL) Program, shared with the committee a proposed change for an adjustment of 5.0 attainment target for English language proficiency (ELP) based on Delaware's English learner data in 2018 and 2019.

- Currently, investigative phase to consider changing the attainment target for English learners.
- Messaging should be clear if 5.0 cut score is lowered to show adjustment changed to be reasonable and attainable. The data should be comparable in achievement for both the English speaking and English learners. Fairness and setting the bar appropriately for desired outcome of student exiting as an English learner and recognizing the growth.
- When a student transitions from English learner status and supports conclude, it is federally mandated for the student's progress to be monitored for two years. Student can be brought back in EL status if needed.

ESSA AMMENDMENT – IDENTIFICATION CYCLE

Identification for schools Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) and Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) occurs every three years. This is not an identification year, but is the first year of implementation. Much of the first year of implementation was used for planning, not allowing for three full years to implement the plan. An amendment was requested to the U.S. Department of Education (USED) to extend the identification cycles from November 2021 to 2022, but was rescinded based on feedback from USED. DDOE will be holding a conference call with USED and to include the national organization, Council of Chief State School Officers, to revisit extending for an additional year. Outcome will be reported back to the committee.

At this time, no other amendment is in process but may have more as the year progresses and will bring to the various groups prior to requesting to USED.

ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE

Originally discussed putting together a separate committee to look at assessment processes across the state that would meet quarterly to stay informed about federal requirements and local and national innovative assessment practices. More feasible to integrate these conversations as part of this committee's work.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No formal public comment was received.

WRAP UP AND ADJOURNMENT

- The committee participated in a closing group activity.
- Meeting minutes will be sent to committee members.
- The meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.